Adoption of quake-hit Gujarat villages

3547. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister'of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite the State's resources crunch the Chhattisgarh Government has decided to adopt an earthquake-hit village in Gujarat and the number of quake-hit villages adopted by different organisations and NGOs has touched down 123;

(b) if so, the number of quake-hit villages still left out unattended;

(c) whether the Central Government would approach other State Governments to adopt some villages for upliftment; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) As intimated by the Government of Gujarat, the Government of Chhattisgarh, has adopted one village. The State Government has also informed that it is not true that the adoption by different organizations and NGOs has touched 123.

(b) to (d)The Government of Gujarat is taking all possible relief measures in all the affected areas. As regards adoption of villages by other States, it is a matter to be voluntarily decided by those States in consultation with the Government of Gujarat.

Controlling the crop diseases

† 3548. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to take any effective steps to control the crop diseases;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when, it is likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) Various schemes are being implemented by the State Governments and the Central Government for suitable plant protection measures and for safe and judicious use of pesticides for control of crops diseases. The Central Government is also promoting Integrated Pest Management (IPM) which is

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.